

[ To Charlotte L. Forten ]

Wayland, June 23<sup>d</sup>, 1867.

93

Dear Charlotte,

I thank you very cordially for your kind invitation to be present at the meeting of the Teachers <sup>[of the Freedmen, returning north for the summer]</sup>. There are none in the land for whom I cherish deeper respect, or more lively gratitude.

But I must deny myself the pleasure you offer. The 4 o'clock train of cars is the only one by which we could return home, and Mr. Child's health is so easily disturbed, that a night in the city, in hot weather, is likely to have

unpleasant consequences.

My habits have been extremely secluded for several years past; but I have left home even less than usual during the last year, because great quiet and regularity are necessary to keep him in a condition of bodily comfort.

You will therefore give my heart's love to the teachers, who have been doing such a noble work. I need not wish they may be rewarded; for the reward is in thus working with God for the elevation of an abused race.

If my good little niece is among the teachers, I wish you would ask her to



write to me. I intended to write  
to her to-day, but was doubtful  
whether she was still in Richmond.

With best respects and  
true love to Miss Stevenson, I am,  
as ever, cordially Yr friend,

L. Maria Child.

